

Amendment to the Specification

Please amend page 1 as follows:

WAVELENGTH SELECTIVE SWITCHING AND/OR ROUTING SYSTEM

~~CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS~~

~~— [0001] — This application is a continuation in part of co-pending U.S. Patent Application S.N. 09/943,847 filed on August 31, 2001, which is incorporated by reference herein.~~

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0002] The present invention relates generally to interconnection and switching systems, and, more particularly, to optical switching /routing systems which incorporate the use of selectable switching and routing components.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0003] With the advent of substantial new uses for high bandwidth digital systems, particularly Wavelength Division Multiplexing (WDM) and Dense Wavelength Division Multiplexing (DWDM) systems, and analog electro-optic systems, there exists a greater need to effectively control the routing and switching capability of electro-optic or optical signals from among many possible paths. This is especially true in digital computing systems where signals must be routed among processors; in analog systems such as phased array radar; and in the switching of high bandwidth optical carriers in communication systems, including long haul and metro communication systems. However, it should be realized that